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From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:07 AM
To: Smith; Lynne M (GOV)
Subject: FW: AKSCA eCommunique October 2007

From: AKSCA eCommunique [mailto:gina.brown@alaska.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 3:11 PM
To: Palin, Sarah H (GOV)
Subject: AKSCA eCommunique October 2007

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☒ Alaska State Council on the Arts -- E-Newsletter

A Note From Charlotte**2007 Governor's Awards for
the Arts and Humanities****Connie Bochever Fellows
Announced****FY 08 American/Alaskan
Masterpieces Grants****Arts In Education News****The Alaska Contemporary Art
Bank****Contact Council****Contact Staff****Mission**

The Alaska State Council on the Arts is a state agency that develops the arts for all Alaskans through education, grants and services.

A Note From Charlotte

This time of year is always a hectic one around the Arts Council. The Communique is a bit abbreviated as a result. However, the number of important announcements, events and deadlines we want to make you all aware.

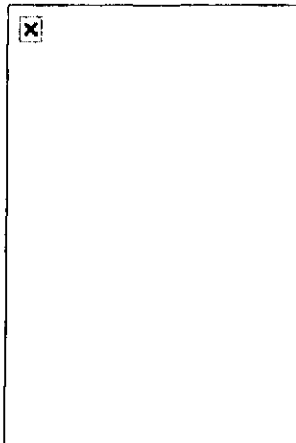
First, a brief report on a recent statewide meeting of local arts agencies that we held in Juneau last month. This was the first time that local arts agencies had a chance to network and learn from each other. Workshop leaders from the Americans for the Arts provided information and history for representatives of 14 local arts agencies. Representatives were there from communities such as Dillingham.

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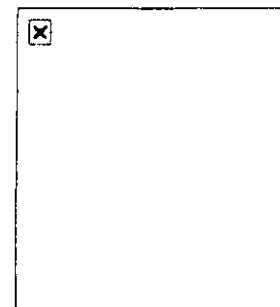
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Seldovia, Haines and Wrangell in addition to the five large arts councils in Fairbanks, Kodiak, Homer, Ketchikan and Juneau. The meeting was hosted by the Juneau Arts and Humanities Council, and was sponsored through a grant from the Rasmuson Foundation.

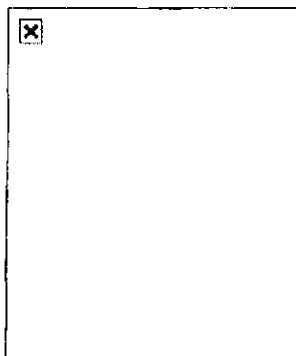
Next week, October 19, the Southeast Alaska Indian Culture Center in Sitka will be hosting a one day Native Artist summit in collaboration with ASCA. For more information, contact SEAICC at seaicc@qci.net



Three of the Awards Created By
Carla Potter for the Governor's
Awards For The Arts Recipients
Photo: Chris Arend



Governor's Awards For The Arts
Recipient: Dana Stabenow



Governor's Awards For The Arts
Recipient: Katherine Wade

IMPORTANT DEADLINES: As we begin to gear up for fall around the state, I want to remind you all of ASCA deadlines. Information on all of these opportunities is at our website: www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca. November 1 is the Artists In Schools deadline for Round II as well as for the Teaching Artist Roster. December 1 is the next quarterly deadline for all small grant categories, as well as the Alaskan/American Masterpieces grants for FY 09. See related story on this below.

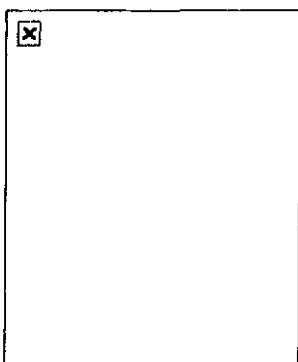
I also must make sure to recognize Glacier Valley Elementary School in Juneau. They recently were one of five schools nationally who received the prestigious Creative Ticket National School of Distinction from the Kennedy Center. The Kennedy Center had the following to say about this innovative arts education program. For a complete tour of this program, click on the link below and then click on Art is Elementary. There you'll find streamed videos, art gallery, etc. <http://www.isd.k12.ak.us/qv/>

Glacier Valley Elementary School, Grades K-6, Juneau, AK

The Glacier Valley Elementary School staff and parents firmly believe in the power of the arts, and that all students should have access to quality arts experiences, regardless of their financial means. Glacier Valley is a Title I school in Juneau, Alaska.

To meet a variety of student learning needs and styles, the school has adopted an approach that integrates the arts into everyday classroom learning as a way to encourage, motivate and extend learning into other subject areas. With the help of community members and school fund-raisers, the Glacier Valley Parent Group and the schools' dedicated team of teachers have been instrumental in securing weekly arts-integrated and art specific experiences through the Art Is Elementary program. Modeled after sports team funding, each classroom is sponsored by local organizations and businesses, which also helps build relationships between students and community.

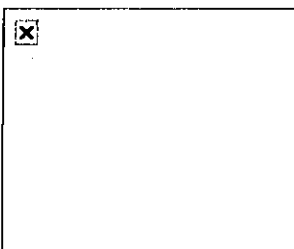
This program addresses a variety of art forms, and acts as professional



**Governor's Awards For The Arts
Recipient: Jo Scott**

development for teachers who are with the class when receiving art instruction. In just one year, Glacier Valley's community partnerships have doubled from 24 to 50, helping to build a bridge between school and local community businesses. Though the program has existed for only two years, they have seen improvement in student attendance, test scores and lower incidences of behavior problems.

Also be sure to read the rest of this Communique- there are stories about your fellow Alaskans who are being recognized through the Connie Boochever Fellowship or the Governor's Awards for the Arts for all their contributions to Alaska's creative community.



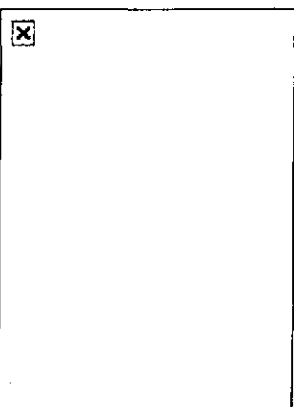
**Connie Boochever Fellow:
Annie Duffy**

I apologize in advance if I have left out news that should be in here. You can expect a more comprehensive newsletter in December.

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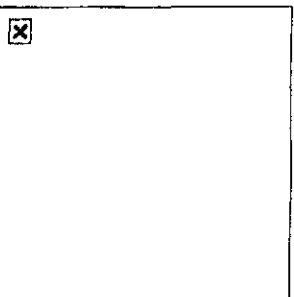
2007 Governor's Awards For The Arts And Humanities

The Alaska State Council on the Arts and The Alaska Humanities Forum are proud to announce the following recipients of the Governor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities. The awards will be presented at a dinner on Friday, October 26, 6 pm at the Fairbanks Princess Lodge. The awards event will be hosted by the Fairbanks Arts Association.



**Connie Boochever Fellow:
Asia Freeman**

Also available at the dinner, as part of ASCAA's ongoing efforts to provide opportunities for Alaskan artists, will be the sale of original centerpieces. All proceeds of centerpieces go back to the artists - this is not a fundraiser for ASCA. Participating artists are: Jamie Autry, James Brashear, Peter Brondz, Bill Brody, Sean Denning Barnes, Rachelle Dowdy, Susan Farnham, Asia Freeman, Sandy Gilliespie, Holly Gittlein, Steve Godfrey, Chris Hanson, John Jay Hoover, Martina John, Gary Kaulitz, Les Matz, Da-ka-zeen Mehner, Art Oomittuk, Sheryl Marie Reilly, Evie Witten and Nelda Warkentin.



**Connie Boochever Fellow:
Elizabeth Eero Irving**

Recipients Of The Governor's Awards For The Arts

Dana Stabenow, Homer

Individual Artist Award

Dana Stabenow was born in Anchorage and raised on a 75-foot fish tender in the Gulf of Alaska. In 1982 she received an MFA from the University of Alaska Anchorage and began her illustrious writing career. Dana's first science fiction novel, *Second Star* was published in 1991, and her first crime fiction novel, *A Cold Day for Murder* won an Edgar



Connie Boochever Fellow:
Buzz Schwall



award in 1993. Her first thriller, *Blindfold Game* (2006) hit the NYT bestseller list, and her twenty-fourth novel, *Prepared for Rage*, comes out in February 2008.

Katherine Wade, Chickaloon

Margaret Nick Cooke Award

The Margaret Nick Cooke Award was started in 1998 by her family after Margaret died of cancer. The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals and organizations whose work furthers traditional Alaska Native language and culture. Katherine Wade is an honored Elder of the traditional village of Chickaloon. She serves as the Chickaloon Traditional Council Advisor and official Clan Grandmother. Katherine is an Ahtna storyteller and a respected Ahtna Athabascan teacher who visualized the preservation of culture and was instrumental in the creation of the Ya Ne Dah Ah School for the children of Chickaloon.

Jo Ryman Scott, Fairbanks

The Distinguished Advocacy Award

A South Dakota farm girl, Scott began teaching right out of high school 50+ years ago in a one room school house with all eight grades. She had her eye on teaching overseas but in those days, you had to be 25 to teach in the Army Schools in Europe. She decided to come to Alaska, and chose Fairbanks, teaching general music at Denali School. In 1985 she co founded the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival, which has grown from 100 to over 1,000 participants annually in its 27 years. It is now a two week festival which attracts leading artists from across Alaska and the US to perform and exhibit. Jo Ryman Scott is the driving force behind this incredible event, and houses the offices for the festival in her home.

Holland America Line, statewide

Business Leadership in the Arts

Holland America has been a supporter of arts and culture during the last 10 years, having provided support for organizations as diverse as the Alaska Native Heritage Center in Anchorage, the new Morris Thompson Cultural Center in Fairbanks, the Juneau Arts and Humanities Council and Juneau Jazz and Classics.

Recipients Of The Governor's Awards For The Humanities

Victor Fischer, Anchorage

Distinguished Service to the Humanities

Marsha Hotch, Haines

Distinguished Service to the Humanities**Dagmar Phillips, Anchorage****Alaska History and Cultural Studies Teacher of the Year**

The award presented to the Arts awardees were created this year by Homer artist Carla Potter. The Humanities Awards were designed by Tamara Johannes, Anchorage.

For more information about the award recipients or the awards dinner, contact the Alaska State Council on the Arts at 907.269.6610 or 1.888.278.7424.

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Connie Boochever Fellows Announced

The Alaska State Council on the Arts and the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation recently chose four individuals to receive this year's Connie Boochever Fellowships in the visual arts. The \$2,500 fellowship is for emerging artists, and each year the disciplines alternate between performing, literary and visual arts.

Annie Duffy, Fairbanks. Annie Duffy is a sculptor, who received her MFA in 1999 from the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N.Y. She works a great deal with cast paper, wood and acrylic, and says that the "process of how I make my pieces and what they mean to me are as important as the objects themselves." Ms. Duffy plans to use this fellowship towards her new project, creating a specific body of work relating to both biochemistry and sense of place.

Asia Freeman, Homer. Asia is best known as the director of the Bunnell Gallery, but she is also a photographer, having received her MFA in sculpture and photography from Union Institute and University. She is creating a new body of work that she describes as "creating an installation involving my photographs, electricity, glass and plastic. I am interested in exploring the question of what is nature at this time in our cultural evolution". Ms. Freeman will use the fellowship to assist her in completing this project.

Elizabeth Eero Irving, Fairbanks. Elizabeth is a painter and is working toward increasing the visibility of her work through group shows and juried exhibits. She received her BFA from Cornish College in 1996, and has recently been accepted into her first solo shows during the upcoming year. Ms. Irving will use the fellowship funds to prepare for the

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shows, as well as take Åa small but significant amount of time off of wage earning workÅ”.

Buzz Schwall, Anchorage. Buzz Schwall is a marionette builder and theater artist, creating and carving all the characters for his productions. He did not discover this art form until he was 50 years old, when he traveled to Prague to participate in a marionette building workshop. He has been working as a marionette artist ever since, and will use the Connie Boochever Fellowship to launch a new project which will involve, among other characters, creating and building insect marionettes. Mr. Schwall also stated in his application that this award is important Åbecause there is a certain amount of confidence that comes with being awarded a grant from peersÅ”.

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FY 08 American/Alaskan Masterpieces Grants Now Available

DEADLINE FOR ROUND 1 of FY 09 (July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009): December 1, 2007.

The Alaska State Council on the Arts is soliciting letters of intent from organizations interested in applying for funds through the American/Alaskan Masterpieces Grant program. This is an ASCA program, and separate from the NEA direct American Masterpieces grants to organizations.

Theme of Alaskan/American Masterpieces Grant Program:

Grants will to be awarded to organizations that present or produce events, residences or exhibits that honor the theme of American or Alaskan masterworks or master artists.

Some example projects:

- A tour of American jazz masterworks;
- A production by a legendary Alaskan composer, choreographer or playwright;
- An exhibit demonstrating the cultural tradition of Alaska Native basketry;
- An arts education awareness program featuring Alaskan artists;
- An exhibit of a well known American or Alaskan contemporary artist;
- A month long residency in a community with a recognized master artist;

For more information, visit the [ASCA website](#).

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Arts In Education News Poetry Out Loud

Deadline for teachers to sign up for this year's high school Poetry Out Loud competition is November 9, 2007! Contact Susan Olson, Arts Education Director for the Alaska State Council on the Arts at (907) 269-6682 or toll-free in Alaska at 1-888-278-7424 or visit www.poetryoutloud.org for more information.

The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation present Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest, in partnership with the Alaska State Council on the Arts. Poetry Out Loud is a program that encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization, performance and competition. From September, 2007 through February, 2008, schools are invited to participate in classroom and school wide contests, advancing to a state competition in March, 2008. State champions will advance to the National Finals, to take place on April 27-29, 2008 in Washington, DC.

Poetry Out Loud seeks to foster the next generation of literary readers by capitalizing on the latest trends in poetry – recitation and performance. The program builds on the resurgence of poetry as an oral art form, as seen in the slam poetry movement and the immense popularity of rap music among youth. Poetry Out Loud invites the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word and theater into the English class. Through Poetry Out Loud, students can master public speaking skills, build self-confidence and learn about their literary heritage.

ARTISTS IN SCHOOLS – ROUND II GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE NOVEMBER 1

Grant applications are available for the Alaska State Council on the Arts' Artists in Schools Program (AIS). AIS will be funding a second round of applications for school residencies in the upcoming school year (2007-2008). Matching fees paid by schools remain reduced, and, at the same time, the Artists in Schools Program has increased the fee amount paid to individual artists. The AIS program is made possible through partnership between the Alaska State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional support through the Rasmuson Foundation.

The Artists in Schools Program makes opportunities possible for students and teachers to work with professional artists through a full-time residency in their school for a minimum of two weeks. Any school in Alaska is eligible to apply.

Need more information?

- Applications and guidelines for Artists in Schools are available online only at: <http://alaska.coweb.org>

- **Deadline for applications: November 1, 2007.** Late applications will not be forwarded to the Council or considered for funding.
- For more information about the State Arts Council's Artists in Schools Program, call Program Director Susan Olson at (907) 269-6682, email Susan.Olson1@alaska.gov, or call toll free: 1-888-278-7424.

The arts are vital to a complete education. The arts celebrate multiple perspectives; the arts teach children that problems can have more than one solution; the arts stimulate language, both spoken and written and develop critical skills.

TEACHING ARTIST ROSTER DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 1

The Artists In Schools Program (AIS) is looking for professional teaching artists in Visual, Literary, Traditional Native and Performing art forms with a strong desire to share their skills with Alaskan students and teachers through school residencies. If this sounds like you, please call (907) 269-6682 or email Susan.Olson1@alaska.gov to see how you can be a part of the State Arts Council's Artists in Schools residency program.

Application forms are also available online at: www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca under Arts Education.

This year applications will be accepted from visual, literary and performance artists. Visual and literary arts include painting, sculpture, printmaking, media arts, poetry, playwriting, fiction and non-fiction writers, as well as Alaska Native arts such as bead working, basketry, quilting and kayak and sled building. Performance arts include actors, puppeteers, singers, dancers, mimes, circus artists, as well as Alaska Native drummers, dancers and storytellers.

Applications are due by November 1, 2007.

The **Artists in Schools Program** provides an opportunity for artists to work in a variety of art forms. Through AIS, artists are able to share their skills with students via a residency in a variety of situations ranging from large urban schools to very small bush schools from two to sixteen weeks. Artists also provide teacher training and demonstrate their professional skills to community members. Artists are paid a fee, given a supplies budget and travel expenses. Food and housing are also provided. All funding support is through the Alaska State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency and sponsoring schools, with additional support from the Rasmuson Foundation.

For more information about the State Arts Council's Artists In Schools Program or for an application, call (907) 269-6682 or email

Susan.Olson1@alaska.gov

Arts Educator Award Grant Applications Available

The Alaska State Council on the Arts, in partnership with the Rasmuson Foundation and the Alaska Arts & Culture Foundation, is pleased to announce the availability of applications for the Arts Educator Grant. There are two deadlines for this grant: December 1, 2007 and March 1, 2008. This is a postmark deadline.

This grant is designed to encourage the reconnection of art teachers to the practice of their art. Four awards, each up to \$3,000, are available for K-12 arts educators whose primary responsibility is arts instruction, teaching a minimum of three years and permanently assigned full or part time in an Alaskan school.

Applications and guidelines are available at:

www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca under Arts Education. For more information about this grant, please contact the Alaska State Council on the Arts' Arts Education office at (907) 269-6682, or toll-free in Alaska at 1-888-278-7424.

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The Alaska Contemporary Art Bank

Check out the Art Bank on the Web

The ASCA web site has a link to the Contemporary Art Bank, where you can view a good selection of art available through the program. In an effort to make the Art Bank more accessible to all our borrowers, the images will be updated regularly so that generally the work posted is work that is available for loan. The selections posted are representative of the collection as whole, with a variety of images, mediums and sizes. So even if you don't initially see something you like, check back as we hope to update the images monthly.

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The web site also has information on who is eligible for the program and how to contact the Art Bank.

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For additional contact information, please visit our website:

www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca

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Please contact **[Gina Brown](#)**

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Mission

The Alaska State Council on the Arts exists to enhance cultural development in the state by ensuring that art of the highest quality is accessible to all Alaskans.

Art matters

ArTS - Education for Life

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Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 5:25 PM
To: Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored)
Cc: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Remarks for Secondary Principals Conference 10 16 (tomorrow)

41st Annual Fall Principals Conference, October 14-16
Sponsored by the Alaska Associations of Elementary and Secondary Principals
Conference Theme: Comprehensive School Improvement (CSI): Alaska

10 a.m. Sheraton Hotel

It is an honor to welcome all of you – our elementary and secondary principals. It is exciting to see so many of Alaska's educational leaders together learning new strategies to improve our schools.

Your leadership is making a real difference in Alaska's schools.

There is no question, we are all faced with significant challenges when it comes to improving our schools. Some of the concerns I hear all across out state are (1) the impact of skyrocketing retirement costs, (2) the high cost of energy and (3) the inability of our districts to effectively plan with unpredictable levels of state support.

I am working hard to address these issues. Last year, I called on the Legislature to pass an early education funding bill. Although we were not successful, we were able to make education a priority by placing \$1 Billion into the Education Fund.

The Legislative Education Funding Task Force has met and generated 18 recommendations. In order to give our districts the ability to better plan and budget for their programs, I again commit to working with the Legislature to adopt changes to our statutory foundation program early next session.

Some of the changes in the report that I am particularly interested are:

1. Updating our district cost factors to recognize the higher costs of providing education in many areas of our state
2. Increasing funding for students with intensive needs, so that our students who experience medical or other special circumstances can become successful in school and in life, and

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3. Increasing the Base Student Allocation in future years.

Last year, the State contributed a significant amount to help local school districts and municipalities with increasing retirement costs. Although we're still working on our state budget for the next fiscal year, it will reflect my continuing support to fund the TRS and PERS shortfalls, so that school districts can focus on the educational needs of students.

We have implemented, and continue to add, many initiatives that will help disengaged students become active participants in their education. It's vital that our students are able to take their place in our economy and share in Alaska's future. Our children are our greatest resource.

In the near future, 3 out of 4 jobs in America will require some training after high school. Increasingly, the skills required for entry-level jobs are similar to the skills needed to enter college.

Our goal is that more students will graduate from high school and will do so prepared to transition to many different opportunities in the workforce or postsecondary education.

We are beginning a program, called Work Ready/College Ready, to help prepare students for college or the workplace. It offers students and adult job-seekers the opportunity to assess and improve their skills in three areas that are important to the workplace and post-secondary education: reading for information, applied math, and locating information in graphic formats.

The online program is free to users, self-paced, and targeted to participants' needs. The curriculum and assessments are delivered in the context of work situations in fields in which students are interested.

Students will be able to document their skills in a nationally recognized Career Readiness Certificate.

While these initiatives are important, there many more challenges facing us all if we are going to be successful at addressing issues such as our graduation rates.

I will look to you to help provide solutions that can make a difference. I stand ready to work with all of you – and I welcome your new ideas.

Thank you all for the leadership you provide on the front lines of Alaska education.

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Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:11 AM
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Subject: FW: ED Review (10/12/07)

From: Honeysett, Adam [mailto:Adam.Honeysett@ed.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2007 12:50 PM
Subject: ED Review (10/12/07)

ED REVIEW

October 12, 2007

...a bi-weekly update on U.S. Department of Education activities relevant to the
Intergovernmental and Corporate community and other stakeholders

EDITOR'S NOTE

ED Review has been on brief hiatus. However, it was a busy last month in the field of education, and I hope you have been able to track key developments via the ED.gov web site. If not -- or, to ensure you did not miss anything of significance -- please accept this "catch-up" issue of the newsletter. It is longer than most issues, with multiple links for additional information. Hereafter, *ED Review* will return to its standard format and schedule.

While away, my wife and I welcomed our first-born son into the world! Baby, mom, and dad are doing well.

NCLB UPDATE

September 19-21, Secretary Spellings participated in a Back to School bus tour across Ohio and Indiana. On Day 1, in Cleveland, the Secretary announced the "Empowering Parents School Box" (<http://www.ed.gov/parents/academic/involve/schoolbox/>), a resource to help families better prepare their students for academic success, as well as explored the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame (where she learned about science by singing a Stevie Wonder song) and hosted a live National Parent Town Hall. "*No Child Left Behind* puts a necessary focus on reading and math -- the gateway skills to all other learning," she said at the town hall meeting. "It also arms parents with the information they need to be smart consumers and strong advocates for their children. I have yet to meet a parent who volunteered his or her child to be the one who was left behind." On Day 2, the Secretary visited Wright-Patterson Air Force Base outside of Dayton (her assigned codename: Starbuck) and Withrow High School in Cincinnati, where she revealed new features of the Department's FAFSA4caster (<http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov/>), an online tool which offers

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students an early estimate of eligibility for federal aid. On Day 3, in Indianapolis, the Secretary unveiled two new guides in the "Innovations in Education" series -- "K-8 Charter Schools: Closing the Achievement Gap" (<http://www.ed.gov/admins/comm/choice/charterk-8/>) and "Supporting Charter School Excellence Through Quality Authorizing" (<http://www.ed.gov/nclb/choice/charter/authorizing/>) -- and toured the city's Children's Museum (her own words: "No dinos left behind!"). FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.ed.gov/news/photos/2007/bus-tour.html>.

On October 2, Secretary Spellings named 287 schools as 2007 *No Child Left Behind* Blue Ribbon Schools. The Blue Ribbon program recognizes high performing schools (schools whose students, regardless of background, perform in the top 10% on their state assessments [public] or nationally normed assessments [private]) and dramatically improving schools (schools whose students, at least 40% of whom are from disadvantaged backgrounds, dramatically improved on tests to score in at least the top 40% statewide). Chief State School Officers nominate public schools. The Council for American Private Education nominates private schools. Of the schools nominated by each state, at least one-third must have more than 40% of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds, and all recipients must meet *No Child Left Behind* Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) requirements, as defined by their states. The schools will be honored at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., November 12-13. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs/awards.html>.

Also, congratulations to the New York City Department of Education, winner of the 2007 Broad Prize for Urban Education. The nation's largest school system bested four finalists: Bridgeport (CT), Long Beach, Miami-Dade County, and Northside (TX). New York will receive \$500,000 in college scholarships. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.broadprize.org/>.

Other *No Child Left Behind*-related resources:

- NCLB Success Stories from Education News Parents Can Use (<http://www.ed.gov/nclb/overview/intro/reauth/successstories/>)
- "Status and Trends in the Education of Racial and Ethnic Minorities" (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2007039>)
- "Encouraging Girls in Math and Science" (<http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/20072003.pdf>)
- "Organizing Instruction and Study to Improve Student Learning" (<http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/20072004.pdf>)
- "Giving Parents Options: Strategies for Informing Parents and Implementing School Choice and Supplemental Educational Services under *No Child Left Behind*" (<http://www.ed.gov/admins/comm/choice/options/report.html>)

NCLB UPDATE (cont.)

This week, President Bush and Secretary Spellings continued to promote reauthorization of the *No Child Left Behind Act* at local events. On October 9, the President and Secretary met with civil rights leaders and other advocates for disadvantaged children at the White House. "We just had a meaningful discussion about our joint commitment to closing an achievement gap that exists in America," the President said. "As we move forward, we will continue to welcome new ideas. And, I appreciate the ideas I heard today. Yet, there can be no compromise on the basic principle: every child must learn to read and do math at, or above, grade level. And there can be no compromise on the need to hold schools accountable to make sure we achieve that goal" (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/10/20071009-5.html>). On October 10, Secretary Spellings joined U.S. Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman at the new T. C. Williams High School in suburban Virginia. "At a time when less than half of high school graduates are prepared for college-level math and

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science, it's time to increase expectations and improve the way these subjects are taught in our classrooms," Secretary Spellings explained. "Solid math and science skills are becoming increasingly essential in the new knowledge, so it's time to ramp up the rigor and challenge our students to succeed" (<http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2007/10/10102007.html>).

Note: The EnergySmart Schools web site (<http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/energysmartschools/>) includes more than 350 lesson plans and activities on energy efficiency and renewable energy.

NAEP 2007

On September 25, the non-partisan National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) released national and state-by-state results of the 2007 Nation's Report Card in reading and math, highlighting fourth- and eighth-grade achievement on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Some findings:

Math --

- Fourth- and eighth-graders scored higher than in all previous assessment years, and the proportion of students performing at or above the "Basic" and "Proficient" achievement levels has increased significantly over the last 17 years.
- At both grades, white, black, and Hispanic students demonstrated a better understanding compared to all previous assessment years. And, the white-black achievement gap narrowed at grade 4 when compared to 1990 and at grade 8 when compared to 2005.
- Fourteen states and the District of Columbia improved their scores at both the fourth- and eighth-grade levels from 2005 to 2007, while no state showed a decline in achievement.

Reading --

- Fourth-graders scored higher than in all previous assessment years. Eighth-graders scored higher than in 1992 and 2005.
- At both grades, white, black, and Hispanic students demonstrated a better understanding compared to 1992. But, just the white-black achievement gap at grade 4 had narrowed compared to 1992 and 2005.
- Three states and the District improved their scores at both the fourth- and eighth-grade levels from 2005 to 2007, while no states showed a decline in fourth-grade achievement and only two states showed a decline in eighth-grade achievement.

"Student achievement is on the rise," said the Secretary upon the release. "*No Child Left Behind* is working. It's doable, reasonable, and necessary. Any efforts to weaken accountability would fly in the face of rising achievement." FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://nationsreportcard.gov/>. (Several fact sheets may be found at <http://www.ed.gov/nclb/accountability/achieve/report-card2007.html>, and state-by-states profiles are posted at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/>.)

Note: The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) "Education at a Glance" (<http://www.oecd.org/edu/eag2007/>) provides a comparable, up-to-date array of indicators on education among OECD's 30 member nations and partners. The main areas covered are participation and achievement, public and private spending, conditions for students and teachers, and the state of lifelong learning.

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IDEA REPORT

The Department's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) has submitted to Congress its 27th annual report on the implementation of the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA). The report consists of two volumes. The first section of Volume I focuses on the children and students being served under IDEA, including trends in numbers and percentages of infants, toddlers, preschool, and school-age children served; declassification of elementary school-age students; and characteristics of secondary students served for emotional disturbance. The second section has state-level data profiles, and the third section consists of selected rank-ordered state data tables. Volume II contains extensive appendix tables of state-reported data required under IDEA, including the number of infants and toddlers receiving early intervention services disaggregated by race/ethnicity; the number of children receiving special education services disaggregated by disability category and race/ethnicity; and graduation and dropout data. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.ed.gov/about/reports/annual/osep/2005/parts-b-c/>.

Note: OSERS's updated "Disability Employment 101" booklet (<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/products/employmentguide/>) presents information on finding qualified workers with disabilities, putting disability and employment research into practice, and modeling what other businesses have done to successfully integrate those with disabilities into the workforce.

TRANSFORMING HIGHER EDUCATION

In early September, the Secretary announced that the national student loan default rate fell from FY 2004's 5.1% to 4.6% -- just off the record-low rate of 4.5% (FY 2003) and 79% less than the all-time high of 22.4% (FY 1990). Moreover, all of the nation's colleges and universities have default rates low enough to remain eligible for federal financial aid programs. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/defaultmanagement/cdr.html>.

On September 27, President Bush signed into law the *College Cost Reduction and Access Act* (H.R. 2669), authorizing the largest increase in student financial aid since the GI Bill. The legislation increases funding for the federal Pell Grant program -- which, unlike loans, do not have to be repaid -- by \$11.4 billion over the next five years, gradually raising the maximum annual award from \$4,310 in 2007 to \$5,400 in 2012. "One of the best ways to make higher education affordable is through Pell Grants," the President stated. "Pell Grants send an important message to students in need: if you work hard, and you stay in school, and you make the right choices, the federal government is going to stand with you." Today, five million lower-income students receive Pell Grants annually. In addition, the legislation makes it easier to repay loans by:

- Cutting interest rates on new, subsidized Stafford loans to undergraduate students. (From the current 6.8%, the rate would be reduced to 6.0% in July 2008, 5.6% in July 2009, 4.5% in July 2010, and 3.4% in July 2011. In July 2012, the rate would revert back to 6.8%.)
- Capping both subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford loan repayments to no more than 15% of discretionary income. After 25 years, any remaining balances would be cancelled.
- Forgiving the loans of borrowers working public sector jobs (such as emergency management, government, law enforcement, public education, public health) after 10 years of service and repayments.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/09/20070927-1.html>. (President Bush's remarks are

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available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2007/09/20070927-3.html>. Secretary Spellings' statement is posted at <http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2007/09/09272007a.html>.)

Also, Undersecretary of Education Sara Martinez Tucker is conducting a national college listening tour, to hear directly from students about the challenges they face in gaining access to and succeeding in college. She will meet with students in California, Florida, Kansas, Louisiana, New York, and Texas.

Other higher education-related resources:

- College Navigator (<http://collegenavigator.ed.gov/>), the successor to the College Opportunities Online (COOL) web site designed to help students, parents, and high school counselors get information about 7,000 institutions of higher education in the U.S.
- "Only a Dream" public service campaign (<http://federalstudentaid.ed.gov/onlyadream.html>)
- "Postsecondary Institutions in the U.S.: Fall 2006 and Degrees and Other Awards Conferred in 2005-06" (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2007166>)

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

The next "Education News Parents Can Use" broadcast (October 16, 8:00-9:00 ET) will discuss "what works" in violence reduction and the growing body of evidence about the links between violence, bullying, mental health, and academic achievement. The Virginia Tech University tragedy, like the shootings at American middle and high schools, shocked the country and caused parents and educators to wonder how school campuses -- traditionally, safe havens for learning -- could become so violent. Actually, despite these highly visible events, the vast majority of the nation's students are safe at school. Statistics indicate that homicides of school-age children were about 50 times more likely to occur away from school than at school, and, every year over the last decade, serious violent victimization rates were lower at school. Still, as long as any student is threatened, there is work to be done. The broadcast will spotlight a variety of resources to assist educators -- and help the parents they serve -- in developing and improving plans to mitigate violent behavior, identifying behaviors that lead to violence in youth, and ensuring the safety and prosperity of America's children. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.ed.gov/news/av/video/edtv/>. (You can watch live and archived webcasts at <http://www.connectlive.com/events/ednews/>.)

Regarding Virginia Tech, the Department's Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools (OSDFS) recently awarded the institution a \$960,685 grant to assist with recovery efforts and begin to develop a model for assessing and responding to at-risk behaviors in a higher education setting. After the April 16 shootings, Virginia Tech submitted an unsolicited proposal to OSDFS for national program/federal activities funds. These discretionary funds support leadership projects designed to prevent violence and drug abuse among all education levels. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2007/09/09212007a.html>.

Also, as a participating member of the President's Interagency Task Force to combat human trafficking, OSDFS has developed a fact sheet for schools related to the trafficking of children. Contrary to popular assumption, cases of human trafficking have been reported in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and some U.S. territories. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osdfs/factsheet.html>.

Other safety-related resources:

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- Emergency Response and Crisis Management Technical Assistance Center (<http://ercm.ed.gov/>), with "Helpful Hints" on improving emergency management practices within school communities
- "Crime, Violence, Discipline, and Safety in U.S. Public Schools: 2005-06" (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2007361>)
- "Public School Practices for Violence Prevention and Reduction: 2003-04" (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2007010>)

GRANT AWARDS

Below is a short list of new grant awards, particularly in the area of assessment development:

- Almost \$7.5 million to six states to explore ways to implement better assessments of student progress, beyond the testing procedures required under *No Child Left Behind* (<http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2007/09/09252007b.html>)
- More than \$14 million to 27 states to help them meet requirements for students with disabilities under *No Child Left Behind* and IDEA (<http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2007/10/10092007.html>)
- \$2.45 million to the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU), and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC) to provide reliable and valid measures for assessing student learning at the higher education level (<http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2007/09/09282007.html>)
- More than \$3.5 million to 22 grantees to plan, design, and open new charter schools (<http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2007/09/09262007.html>)
- \$100 million to 41 school districts in 17 states to establish new magnet schools or expand existing magnet programs (<http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2007/09/09272007.html>)

Note: In a September 27 letter to Chief State School Officers (listed at <http://www.ed.gov/policy/fund/guid/gposbul/lateliquidationmemos.html>), the Department's Chief Financial Officer issued new guidance for the "late liquidation" of federal education funds.

ADULT EDUCATION

On September 27, President Bush signed an Executive Order to strengthen adult education in the U.S. Secretary Spellings has been tasked with leading an Interagency Adult Education Working Group. By bringing together all relevant federal agencies, the group aims to strengthen existing programs and improve adult participation in postsecondary education. "College access is not just about access for high school students. It's about access for adult learners," the Secretary said. "When 90% of the fastest growing jobs in America require a postsecondary credential or training, we have a duty to educate those of all ages and backgrounds to meet the needs of our new knowledge-based economy." FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2007/09/09282007a.html>.

Note: To support states and colleges that are working to increase adults' access to an advanced credential, the Secretary also announced four grants totaling more than \$2.8 million from the Department's Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE). Ready for College grants will allow community college systems in four states to work with 25 local adult education programs to improve college readiness for out-of-school

youth.

QUOTES TO NOTE

"The Nation's Report Card shows we're making good progress.... And that means Congress needs to reauthorize and strengthen the *No Child Left Behind Act*.... Through this law our nation has made an historic commitment to America's children, and we have a moral obligation to keep that commitment. We must ensure that they have the skills they need to succeed in life -- and in a global economy that becomes even more important."

-- President George W. Bush (9/26/07), in New York City after the release of 2007 NAEP scores

"This morning, I had the honor of meeting the Team USA athletes, including golfer Jason Plante. In addition to competing here today, he is an honor roll student, and he also plays on his high school team, which is among the best in the state. In Jason's opinion, 'there is virtually no difference' between learning a sport and learning in school. He's absolutely right. Both take discipline, focus, practice, and high expectations. This summit [on the Well-Being of Students with Intellectual Disabilities] is a great opportunity for all of us to work together to help more students around the world succeed and thrive as Jason has."

-- Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings (10/3/07), in Shanghai, China, for the Special Olympics World Summer Games

UPCOMING EVENTS

The National Mathematics Advisory Panel's ninth meeting is October 23 and 24 in Phoenix. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/mathpanel/>.

On November 5 and 6, the White House and several Cabinet agencies (including Education) will host a conference in Indianapolis, to help social service organizations learn more about the President's Faith-Based and Community Initiative. This conference will share information about the federal grant process, as well as basic legal responsibilities that come with federal aid. Special emphasis will be placed on opportunities for partnership at the state and local level. The conference is free, but pre-registration is required. Please register online by October 29. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.fbc.gov/>.

Over the next two weeks, the Department will be exhibiting at the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities' annual conference in Chicago (October 20-22) and the National Future Farmers of America's national convention in Indianapolis (October 24-27). If you are attending either of these events, please stop by the Department's booth.

The Mind Trust, an Indianapolis-based organization that supports education entrepreneurship, is initiating a fellowship program, which will afford talented individuals with the opportunity to develop and launch initiatives to transform public education. An inaugural cohort of four entrepreneurs will begin their two-year fellowship next spring and receive salary, benefits, travel resources, and a customized package of support. Applications, with a statement of intent, are due by January 15, 2008. Fellowships will be awarded by May 1, 2008. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE GO TO <http://www.themindtrust.org/>.

Please feel free to contact the Office of Communications and Outreach with any questions:

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Director, Intergovernmental Affairs -- Rogers Johnson, (202) 401-0026, <mailto:Rogers.Johnson@ed.gov>
Deputy Director -- Marcie Ridgway, (202) 401-6359, <mailto:Marcie.Ridgway@ed.gov>
Program Analyst -- Adam Honeysett, (202) 401-3003, <mailto:Adam.Honeysett@ed.gov>
To be added or removed from distribution, or submit comments (we welcome your feedback!), contact Adam Honeysett. Or, visit <http://www.ed.gov/news/newsletters/edreview/>.

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11/10/2009

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Unknown

From: Leschper, Beth (GOV) [beth.leschper@alaska.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 2:04 PM
To: Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); Buck; Hannah K (GOV)
Subject: education remarks for tomorrow 10 06 07

Governor:

Barbara Thompson is helping with remarks so that you can attend the Secondary School Principals Association meeting tomorrow.

We will have something to you by late this afternoon.

Barbara will also attend the meeting. Here's the information below.

Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals to give a Welcome. This is the 41st Annual Fall Principals Conference. The Conference started on Sunday and goes through Tuesday, 10.16.07. I explained to the Executive Director that you were not available to do a Q and A on the panel. They are requesting just a brief welcome to the group. They have given us two times to work with. Either @ 10:00 a.m. right before General Session begins or @ 12:30 p.m. - they will break for lunch at that time. Expected attendance is 300-400.

Location: ANC - Sheraton Hotel

Beth Leschper
Deputy Communications Director
Office of the Governor
State of Alaska
907-465-3443
907-723-1321

11/10/2009

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Unknown

From: Fagerstrom, Erika (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=EFAGERSTROM]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 9:17 PM
To: 'govpalin@alaska.gov'
Subject: Re: Right on!!!

Thanks so much!!! That was just too cool!!

We REALLY appreciate your invit. to stay at your house, so nice of you to offer! My mom and the rest of my family is staying at Capt.Cook & B got a great discount, so we're good. We did last wk extra low budget!

Do you want anything for the fridge while you're here?

E

----- Original Message -----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)
To: Fagerstrom, Erika (GOV)
Cc: 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com' <fek9wnr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sun Oct 14 11:19:20 2007
Subject: Right on!!!

We are so proud! Great job! Your boys are awesome!

I loved the article about your sons (though they should have added your precious daughter in there, too). Reading it gave me goosebumps.

Cool picture of Eddie, too.

Can't wait for next weekend's game. If people need a place to stay, despite the drive they'd need to make to watch the game in Anchorage, let folks know they can camp at our house and save some hotel \$\$\$.

Todd and I will be down Wed night it sounds like.

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 8:10 PM
To: 'paymckhea@yahoo.com'; Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: Molly

----- Original Message -----

From: molly mccann <paymckhea@yahoo.com>
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)
Sent: Mon Oct 15 20:09:05 2007
Subject: Re: Molly

Alpha Phi.

--- "Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)"
<govpalin@alaska.gov> wrote:

> McCann. And she was in a sorority at UI. I'll ask her
> which one- i can't remember. And my brother Chuck
> Heath was in the SAE frat there too, for four years.

>

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)
> To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)
> Sent: Mon Oct 15 19:12:12 2007
> Subject: Molly

>

> Governor:

>

> Does .

> Molly have a different last name? U of I is going
> to include her oin the article.

>
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)
> To: Leschper, Beth (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'
> <fek9wnr@yahoo.com>
> Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y
> (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV); Leighow, Sharon W
> (GOV)
> Sent: Mon Oct 15 17:33:04 2007
> Subject: Re: Remarks for Secondary Principals
> Conference 10 16 (tomorrow)
>
> Todd would you print off on home pc so i can look
> over?
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Leschper, Beth (GOV)
> To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)
> Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y
> (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV); Leighow, Sharon W
> (GOV)
> Sent: Mon Oct 15 17:25:19 2007
> Subject: Remarks for Secondary Principals Conference
> 10 16 (tomorrow)
>
> 41st Annual Fall Principals Conference, October
> 14-16
>
> Sponsored by the Alaska Associations of Elementary
> and Secondary Principals
>

> Conference Theme: Comprehensive School Improvement
> (CSI): Alaska
>
>
>
> 10 a.m. Sheraton Hotel
>
>
>
> It is an honor to welcome all of you -- our
> elementary and secondary principals. It is exciting
> to see so many of Alaska's educational leaders
> together learning new strategies to improve our
> schools.
>
>
>
> Your leadership is making a real difference in
> Alaska's schools.
>
>
>
> There is no question, we are all faced with
> significant challenges when it comes to improving
> our schools. Some of the concerns I hear all across
> our state are (1) the impact of skyrocketing
> retirement costs, (2) the high cost of energy and
> (3) the inability of our districts to effectively
> plan with unpredictable levels of state support.
>
>
>
> I am working hard to address these issues. Last
> year, I called on the Legislature to pass an early

> education funding bill. Although we were not
> successful, we were able to make education a
> priority by placing \$1 Billion into the Education
> Fund.
>
>
>
> The Legislative Education Funding Task Force has met
> and generated 18 recommendations. In order to give
> our districts the ability to better plan and budget
> for their programs, I again commit to working with
> the Legislature to adopt changes to our statutory
> foundation program early next session.
>
>
>
> Some of the changes in the report that I am
> particularly interested are:
>
> 1. Updating our district cost factors to
> recognize the higher costs of providing education in
> many areas of our state
>
> 2. Increasing funding for students with intensive
> needs, so that our students who experience medical
> or other special circumstances can become successful
> in school and in life, and
>
> 3. Increasing the Base Student Allocation in
> future years.
>
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>

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>
> Last year, the State contributed a significant
> amount to help local school districts and
> municipalities with increasing retirement costs.
> Although weâ€™re still working on our state budget
> for the next fiscal year, it will reflect my
> continuing support to fund the TRS and PERS
> shortfalls, so that school districts can focus on
> the educational needs of students.
>
>
>
> We have implemented, and continue to add, many
> initiatives that will help disengaged students
> become active participants in their education.
> Itâ€™s vital that our students are able to take
> their place in our economy and share in Alaskaâ€™s
> future. Our children are our greatest resource.
>
>
>
> In the near future, 3 out of 4 jobs in America will
> require some training after high school.
> Increasingly, the skills required for entry-level
> jobs are similar to the skills needed to enter
> college.
>
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> Our goal is that more students will graduate from
> high school and will do so prepared to transition to
> many different opportunities in the workforce or
> postsecondary education.

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>
> We are beginning a program, called Work
> Ready/College Ready, to help prepare students for
> college or the workplace. It offers students and
> adult job-seekers the opportunity to assess and
> improve their skills in three areas that are
> important to the workplace and post-secondary
> education: reading for information, applied math,
> and locating information in graphic formats.
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> The online program is free to users, self-paced, and
> targeted to participants's needs. The curriculum
> and assessments are delivered in the context of work
> situations in fields in which students are
> interested.
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> Students will be able to document their skills in a
> nationally recognized Career Readiness Certificate.
>
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>
> While these initiatives are important, there many
> more challenges facing us all if we are going to be
> successful at addressing issues such as our
> graduation rates.
>
>

>
> I will look to you to help provide solutions that
> can make a difference. I stand ready to work with
> all of you " and I welcome your new ideas.

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> Thank you all for the leadership you provide on the
> front lines of Alaska education.

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=== message truncated ===

Yahoo! oneSearch: Finally, mobile search
that gives answers, not web links.
<http://mobile.yahoo.com/mobileweb/onesearch?refer=1ONXIC>

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 7:25 PM
To: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); paymckhea@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: Molly

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Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV); Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)
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Sharon W (GOV)

Sent: Mon Oct 15 17:25:19 2007

Subject: Remarks for Secondary Principals Conference 10 16 (tomorrow)

41st Annual Fall Principals Conference, October 14-16

Sponsored by the Alaska Associations of Elementary and Secondary Principals

Conference Theme: Comprehensive School Improvement (CSI): Alaska

10 a.m. Sheraton Hotel

It is an honor to welcome all of you - our elementary and secondary principals. It is exciting to see so many of Alaska's educational leaders together learning new strategies to improve our schools.

Your leadership is making a real difference in Alaska's schools.

There is no question, we are all faced with significant challenges when it comes to improving our schools. Some of the concerns I hear all across our state are (1) the impact of skyrocketing retirement costs, (2) the high cost of energy and (3) the inability of our districts to effectively plan with unpredictable levels of state support.

I am working hard to address these issues. Last year, I called on the Legislature to pass an early education funding bill. Although we were not successful, we were able to make education a priority by placing \$1 Billion into the Education Fund.

The Legislative Education Funding Task Force has met and generated 18 recommendations. In order to give our districts the ability to better plan and budget for their programs, I again commit to working with the Legislature to adopt changes to our statutory foundation program early next session.

Some of the changes in the report that I am particularly interested are:

1. Updating our district cost factors to recognize the higher costs of providing education in many areas of our state
2. Increasing funding for students with intensive needs, so that our students who experience medical or other special circumstances can become successful in school and in life, and
3. Increasing the Base Student Allocation in future years.

Last year, the State contributed a significant amount to help local school districts and municipalities with increasing retirement costs. Although we're still working on our state budget for the next fiscal year, it will reflect my continuing support to fund the TRS and PERS shortfalls, so that school districts can focus on the educational needs of students.

We have implemented, and continue to add, many initiatives that will help disengaged students become active participants in their education. It's vital that our students are able to take their place in our economy and share in Alaska's future. Our children are our greatest resource.

In the near future, 3 out of 4 jobs in America will require some training after high school. Increasingly, the skills required for entry-level jobs are similar to the skills

needed to enter college.

Our goal is that more students will graduate from high school and will do so prepared to transition to many different opportunities in the workforce or postsecondary education.

We are beginning a program, called Work Ready/College Ready, to help prepare students for college or the workplace. It offers students and adult job-seekers the opportunity to assess and improve their skills in three areas that are important to the workplace and post-secondary education: reading for information, applied math, and locating information in graphic formats.

The online program is free to users, self-paced, and targeted to participants' needs. The curriculum and assessments are delivered in the context of work situations in fields in which students are interested.

Students will be able to document their skills in a nationally recognized Career Readiness Certificate.

While these initiatives are important, there many more challenges facing us all if we are going to be successful at addressing issues such as our graduation rates.

I will look to you to help provide solutions that can make a difference. I stand ready to work with all of you - and I welcome your new ideas.

Thank you all for the leadership you provide on the front lines of Alaska education.

Beth Leschper

Deputy Communications Director

Office of the Governor

State of Alaska

907-465-3443

907-723-1321

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 5:33 PM
To: Leschper, Beth (GOV); 'fek9wnr@yahoo.com'
Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV); Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: Remarks for Secondary Principals Conference 10 16 (tomorrow)

Todd would you print off on home pc so i can look over?

----- Original Message -----

From: Leschper, Beth (GOV)
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)
Cc: Tibbles, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV); Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)
Sent: Mon Oct 15 17:25:19 2007
Subject: Remarks for Secondary Principals Conference 10 16 (tomorrow)

41st Annual Fall Principals Conference, October 14-16

Sponsored by the Alaska Associations of Elementary and Secondary Principals

Conference Theme: Comprehensive School Improvement (CSI): Alaska

10 a.m. Sheraton Hotel

It is an honor to welcome all of you - our elementary and secondary principals. It is exciting to see so many of Alaska's educational leaders together learning new strategies to improve our schools.

Your leadership is making a real difference in Alaska's schools.

There is no question, we are all faced with significant challenges when it comes to improving our schools. Some of the concerns I hear all across our state are (1) the impact of skyrocketing retirement costs, (2) the high cost of energy and (3) the inability of our districts to effectively plan with unpredictable levels of state support.

I am working hard to address these issues. Last year, I called on the Legislature to pass an early education funding bill. Although we were not successful, we were able to make education a priority by placing \$1 Billion into the Education Fund.

The Legislative Education Funding Task Force has met and generated 18 recommendations. In order to give our districts the ability to better plan and budget for their programs, I again commit to working with the Legislature to adopt changes to our statutory foundation program early next session.

Some of the changes in the report that I am particularly interested are:

1. Updating our district cost factors to recognize the higher costs of providing education in many areas of our state
2. Increasing funding for students with intensive needs, so that our students who experience medical or other special circumstances can become successful in school and in life, and
3. Increasing the Base Student Allocation in future years.

Last year, the State contributed a significant amount to help local school districts and

municipalities with increasing retirement costs. Although we're still working on our state budget for the next fiscal year, it will reflect my continuing support to fund the TRS and PERS shortfalls, so that school districts can focus on the educational needs of students.

We have implemented, and continue to add, many initiatives that will help disengaged students become active participants in their education. It's vital that our students are able to take their place in our economy and share in Alaska's future. Our children are our greatest resource.

In the near future, 3 out of 4 jobs in America will require some training after high school. Increasingly, the skills required for entry-level jobs are similar to the skills needed to enter college.

Our goal is that more students will graduate from high school and will do so prepared to transition to many different opportunities in the workforce or postsecondary education.

We are beginning a program, called Work Ready/College Ready, to help prepare students for college or the workplace. It offers students and adult job-seekers the opportunity to assess and improve their skills in three areas that are important to the workplace and post-secondary education: reading for information, applied math, and locating information in graphic formats.

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While these initiatives are important, there many more challenges facing us all if we are going to be successful at addressing issues such as our graduation rates.

I will look to you to help provide solutions that can make a difference. I stand ready to work with all of you - and I welcome your new ideas.

Thank you all for the leadership you provide on the front lines of Alaska education.

Beth Leschper

Deputy Communications Director

Office of the Governor

State of Alaska

907-465-3443

907-723-1321

Unknown

From: Mason, Janice L (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE
GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JLMASON]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 5:06 PM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Subject: Re: Call from David Cuddy

Governor - David Cuddy called this afternoon and said he was returning a call you had made to him last week. Mr. Cuddy can be reached @ 512-668-4346 or cell @ 512-665-8388.
Thanks, Janice

Sent using BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
To: Mason, Janice L (GOV); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Smith, Lynne M (GOV); Leighow, Sharon W (GOV); Leschper, Beth (GOV)
Sent: Mon Oct 15 13:17:49 2007
Subject: Re: Schedule for Tuesday, 10.16

I can do the speech tho, as long as she or someone else can

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 4:09 PM
To: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: Re: Kenai

Right. Got the part about the departure time via janice's sched, just didnt know when i was supposed to show up. Now i do. 440

----- Original Message -----

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)
To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Cockrell, Robert A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)
Sent: Mon Oct 15 16:07:10 2007
Subject: RE: Kenai

Bob tried to respond but his email isn't working. He asked that I send you an email to let you know that it is a 5pm departure. You arrive Kenai at 5:25 pm.

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 3:30 PM
To: Cockrell, Robert A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: Kenai

Sched says 5pm Kenai. Is this departure time - or time to arrive at airport?

Unknown

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV) [kris.perry@alaska.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 4:07 PM
To: Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored); Cockrell; Robert A (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: RE: Kenai

Bob tried to respond but his email isn't working. He asked that I send you an email to let you know that it is a 5pm departure. You arrive Kenai at 5:25 pm.

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 3:30 PM
To: Cockrell, Robert A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: Kenai

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Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 3:30 PM
To: Cockrell; Robert A (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: Kenai

Sched says 5pm Kenai. Is this departure time - or time to arrive at airport?

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 1:18 PM
To: Mason; Janice L (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Smith; Lynne M (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); Leschper; Beth (GOV)
Subject: Re: Schedule for Tuesday, 10.16

I can do the speech tho, as long as she or someone else can jot it down bc i dont have time before tomorrow. Thanks!

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Mason, Janice L (GOV)" <janice.mason@alaska.gov>

Date: Mon, 15 Oct 2007 12:34:38

To: ExternalEmailgsp <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>, "Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.tibbles@alaska.gov>

Cc: "Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>, "Smith, Lynne M (GOV)" <lynne.smith@alaska.gov>, "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>, "Leschper, Beth (GOV)" <beth.leschper@alaska.gov>

Subject: RE: Schedule for Tuesday, 10.16

Governor - I just contacted Barbara. Barbara will be going up to ANC on the morning flight and would be delighted to welcome the group on your behalf. Thanks, Janice

-----Original Message-----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 12:22 PM

To: Mason, Janice L (GOV); Tibbles, Michael A (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Smith, Lynne M (GOV); Leighow, Sharon W (GOV); Leschper, Beth (GOV)

Subject: Re: Schedule for Tuesday, 10.16

Today is overly-packed. I will have no time to prepare for tomorrow's speech at all- has anyone drafted anything? Its a shame they threw out a last-minute invitation. I'll do it if someone can come up with a solid, intelligent, visionary talk to go from. Pls have Barbara consider.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Mason, Janice L (GOV)" <janice.mason@alaska.gov>

Date: Mon, 15 Oct 2007 11:49:20

To: Sarah Palin <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Cc: "Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>

Subject: Schedule for Tuesday, 10.16

Governor - You have a request from the Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals to give a Welcome. This is the 41st Annual Fall Principals Conference. The Conference started on Sunday and goes through Tuesday, 10.16.07. I explained to the Executive Director that you were not available to do a Q and A on the panel. They are requesting just a brief welcome to the group. They have given us two times to work with. Either @ 10:00 a.m. right before General Session begins or @ 12:30 p.m. - they will break for lunch at that time. Expected attendance is 300-400.

Location: ANC - Sheraton Hotel

Also, Speaker Harris would like an appointment with you tomorrow. Thanks, Janice

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 12:22 PM
To: Mason; Janice L (GOV); Tibbles; Michael A (GOV)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Smith; Lynne M (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); Leschper; Beth (GOV)
Subject: Re: Schedule for Tuesday, 10.16

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Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "Mason, Janice L (GOV)" <janice.mason@alaska.gov>

Date: Mon, 15 Oct 2007 11:49:20

To: Sarah Palin <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Cc: "Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>

Subject: Schedule for Tuesday, 10.16

Governor - You have a request from the Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals to give a Welcome. This is the 41st Annual Fall Principals Conference. The Conference started on Sunday and goes through Tuesday, 10.16.07. I explained to the Executive Director that you were not available to do a Q and A on the panel. They are requesting just a brief welcome to the group. They have given us two times to work with. Either @ 10:00 a.m. right before General Session begins or @ 12:30 p.m. - they will break for lunch at that time. Expected attendance is 300-400.

Location: ANC ~ Sheraton Hotel

Also, Speaker Harris would like an appointment with you tomorrow. Thanks, Janice

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:40 AM
To: nightwatch15@yahoo.com
Subject: RE: Other

Ms. McDonald:

Thank you for your email, I will forward it to the Governor.

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@gov.state.ak.us [mailto:WebMail@gov.state.ak.us]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 12:22 AM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
Subject: Other

Web mail from: Ms. lisa mcdonald
address: po box 3191 soldotna AK 99669
907-260-3159

MESSAGE:

Thank you for being the Governor that Alaska needs. I appreciate your ability to do what is right for the state. Regardless of the political impact decisions you make may have.

Thank you for the transparency of state government. Thank you for your honesty. You are much appreciated.

Lisa McDonald
Soldotna, AK

Thank you for being the Governor that Alaska needs. I appreciate your ability to do what is right for the state. Regardless of the political impact decisions you make may have.

Thank you for the transparency of state government. Thank you for your honesty. You are much appreciated.

Lisa McDonald
Soldotna, AK

nightwatch15@yahoo.com

PLEASE ADD TO E-NEWS

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 8:43 AM
To: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Cc: Tibbles; Michael A (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: tomorrow

J pls note on sched this begins at 9 instead of 930

-----Original Message-----

From: K Perry
To: Governor Sarah Palin
Cc: Mike Tibbles
Cc: Sharon Leighow
Sent: Oct 14, 2007 7:24 PM
Subject: tomorrow

Governor,

In looking at tomorrow's agenda on-line for the Arctic Energy Summit, I see that it opens tomorrow at 9am with Governor Hickel speaking. You are expected to speak at 9:30 followed by Senator Murkowski. You were scheduled via Janice from 9:30 to 9:55 but I wanted to give you a head's up on the opening should you decide to attend. I apologize as I should have looked at the conference agenda sooner. I will go over before the event to scope it and the lay-out and will meet you there. Bob said he could drive you from the Atwood and drop off as parking will be difficult.

On another note, not sure if Sharon told you but Balash will be attending the editorial board with you.

Kris

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Unknown

From: Mason, Janice L (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE
GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JLMASON]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 11:49 AM
To: Sarah Palin
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: Schedule for Tuesday, 10.16

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Location: ANC - She

Unknown

From: PARNELL, S (GOV sponsored) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SRPARNELL1]

Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 7:23 PM

To: Sarah Palin

Subject: CH 2

Ch 2 ran with the angle of a rift between you and the delegation. Lisa got hit with a question about it specific to Gravina and she said that it would have been nice to have some communication from the Administration to the delegation and to the borough and city mayors before the funds were pulled. Your shot was of your apology for whatever lack of communication occurred. I think you did the right thing and it came off fine..."We're doing our best, we make mistakes, we apologize, and we learn from our mistakes..." In the end, it seemed like a non-story.

By the way, I go to DC tomorrow for an Aerospace States Association meeting—one of those traditional LG things I do. I have lunch with Katz on Wednesday, and asked for meetings with Lisa and Rep. Young. I didn't call Sen. Stevens this time....no real reason except I saw him the last time I was in DC and missed Young.

8/31/2009

PRA_GSP01_0006635